

## Bonneville Power Administration

### Fish and Wildlife Program FY99 Proposal

#### Section 1. General administrative information

## Upper Deschutes Basin Watershed Coordinator/Council Support 1999

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Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 9103

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding  
Deschutes County Watershed Council

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Business acronym (if appropriate) DCWC

**Proposal contact person or principal investigator:**

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**Subcontractors.**

<u>Organization<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>	<u>City, ST Zip</u>	<u>Contact Name</u>
<u>Deschutes SWCD</u>	<u>PO Box 6418</u>	<u>Bend, OR 97708</u>	<u>R.L. Freeborn, Chair</u>
<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>
<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>	<u>_____</u>

**NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.**

Section 7 7.6, 7.7

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**NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses.**

**Other planning document references.**

Watershed councils coordinate activities with its neighbors, public associations, local, federal and state government, and private businesses. As part of successfully accomplishing this objective, using the reports, plans, articles, data, and other resources information developed by the Tribes, BLM, USFS, ODFW, DEQ, ODA, SWCD's, Watershed Councils, and others is essential. The DCWC has and will continue to receive support from many of its partners. Participating in meetings, partners have assisted the council in conducting organizational development tasks. The education and outreach efforts have been greatly enhanced through the sharing of information and experience by agency staff and stakeholders. The technical assistance received from our partners has allowed DCWC to identify, design, and implement successful projects. Support for the councils activities have been documented in the GWEB Annual Report, Project #96-068, 1997.

**Subbasin.**

Upper Deschutes Subbasin

**Short description.**

Support the Council's coordination of watershed activities through funding staff wages and training, administrative and operational expenses, and equipment and software acquisition.

**Section 2. Key words**

<u>Mark</u>	<u>Programmatic Categories</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Project Types</u>
<u>=</u>	<u>Anadromous fish</u>	<u>±</u>	<u>Construction</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Watershed</u>
<u>±</u>	<u>Resident fish</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>O &amp; M</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Biodiversity/genetics</u>
<u>X</u>	<u>Wildlife</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Population dynamics</u>
<u>=</u>	<u>Oceans/estuaries</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Research</u>	<u>±</u>	<u>Ecosystems</u>
<u>=</u>	<u>Climate</u>	<u>±</u>	<u>Monitoring/eval.</u>	<u>±</u>	<u>Flow/survival</u>
<u>=</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>±</u>	<u>Resource mgmt</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Fish disease</u>
		<u>X</u>	<u>Planning/admin.</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Supplementation</u>
		<u>=</u>	<u>Enforcement</u>	<u>±</u>	<u>Wildlife habitat en-</u>
		<u>±</u>	<u>Acquisitions</u>		<u>hancement/restoration</u>

**Other keywords.**

Land use/development, education

**Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects**

<u>Project #</u>	<u>Project title/description</u>	<u>Nature of relationship</u>
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

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## **Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules**

### **Objectives and tasks**

<b><u>Obj 1,2,3</u></b>	<b><u>Objective</u></b>	<b><u>Task a,b,c</u></b>	<b><u>Task</u></b>
<u>1</u>	<u>Secure funding and resources</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>Identify opportunities and sources.</u>
==	=====	<u>b</u>	<u>Develop local fundraising strategies.</u>
==	=====	<u>c</u>	<u>Write &amp; submit proposals to fed.,st., private funding programs.</u>
==	=====	<u>d</u>	<u>Include budget line item for project design and mangement.</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Assess watershed condition and develop an Action Plan.</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>Compile existing data and documents</u>
==	=====	<u>b</u>	<u>Identify data gaps.</u>
==	=====	<u>c</u>	<u>Involve stakeholders</u>
==	=====	<u>d</u>	<u>Coordinate with Basin agencies.</u>
==	=====	<u>e</u>	<u>Write assessment.</u>
==	=====	<u>f</u>	<u>Identify limiting conditions.</u>
==	=====	<u>g</u>	<u>Write Action Plan.</u>
==	=====	<u>h</u>	<u>Assure technical review.</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>Facilitate communication among citizens, government agencies and private entities and assure public involvement.</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>Maintain and use mailing list.</u>
==	=====	<u>b</u>	<u>Attend pertinent stakeholder meetings</u>
==	=====	<u>c</u>	<u>Establish media contacts.</u>
==	=====	<u>d</u>	<u>Establish local working groups.</u>
==	=====	<u>e</u>	<u>Secure stakeholder participation on council committees.</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Conduct a community-based outreach program about watershed values and functions.</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>Conduct watershed and project tours.</u>
==	=====	<u>b</u>	<u>Provide landowners technical assitance.</u>
==	=====	<u>c</u>	<u>Publish newsletters and/or write articles for publications.</u>
==	=====	<u>d</u>	<u>Conduct workshops and seminars.</u>
==	=====	<u>e</u>	<u>Develop outreach materials.</u>

<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>f</u>	<u>Conduct presentations to stakeholder organizations and groups.</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>Develop and implement projects that will enhance watershed health.</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>Identify and design projects.</u>
<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>b</u>	<u>Coordinate with affected parties.</u>
<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>c</u>	<u>Assure technical review.</u>
<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>d</u>	<u>Develop funding proposals.</u>
<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>e</u>	<u>Perform project mangement.</u>
<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>-</u>	<u>Monitor and evaluate outcomes.</u>
<u>  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>-</u>	<u>Write final project reports.</u>

### **Objective schedules and costs**

<b><u>Objective #</u></b>	<b><u>Start Date</u> <u>mm/yyyy</u></b>	<b><u>End Date</u> <u>mm/yyyy</u></b>	<b><u>Cost %</u></b>
<u>1</u>	<u>10/1999</u>	<u>9/1999</u>	<u>20.00%</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>10/1999</u>	<u>9/1999</u>	<u>15.00%</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>10/1999</u>	<u>9/1999</u>	<u>15.00%</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>10/1999</u>	<u>9/1999</u>	<u>15.00%</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>10/1999</u>	<u>9/1999</u>	<u>35.00%</u>
			<u>TOTAL 100.00%</u>

### **Schedule constraints.**

None foreseen

### **Completion date.**

This project will require ongoing funding to assure council stability over time.

## **Section 5. Budget**

### **FY99 budget by line item**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Note</u></b>	<b><u>FY99</u></b>
<u>Personnel</u>	<u>1 FTE Coordinator, ½ budget</u>	<u>\$18,000</u>
<u>Fringe benefits</u>	<u>Payroll taxes/benefits</u>	<u>\$4,500</u>
<u>Supplies, materials, non-expendable property</u>	<u>Copy Costs</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
<u>Operations &amp; maintenance</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
<u>Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)</u>	<u>Computer, printer, software</u>	<u>\$3,500</u>
<u>PIT tags</u>	<u># of tags: <u>      </u></u>	<u>      </u>
<u>Travel</u>	<u>Mileage, Lodging, Per diem, ½ budget</u>	<u>\$2,000</u>

<u>Indirect costs</u>	<u>Insurance</u>	<u>\$2,500</u>
<u>Subcontracts</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
<u>Other</u>	<u>Conferences</u>	<u>\$600</u>
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>		<b><u>\$32,100</u></b>

### **Outyear costs**

<b><u>Outyear costs</u></b>	<b><u>FY2000</u></b>	<b><u>FY01</u></b>	<b><u>FY02</u></b>	<b><u>FY03</u></b>
<u>Total budget</u>	<u>\$46,000</u>	<u>\$50,500</u>	<u>\$54,500</u>	<u>\$58,000</u>
<u>O&amp;M as % of total</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>

## **Section 6. Abstract**

**The Deschutes River Watershed is loved by residents and visitors for its majestic canyons, unique geology, white water boating, hunting and fishing opportunities, and numerous additional recreation activities. This watershed is home to many threatened and endangered, sensitive, and indigenous species of plants and animals. Today, the future of this great river and its resources is in jeopardy. Increasing development, land use changes, and recreational demands threaten to further alter the ecosystem and create adverse impacts on the area's wildlife and native vegetation. To help address these difficult challenges, local residents have established a watershed council and begun developing solutions through innovative stakeholder partnerships. The watershed coordinator has been essential to the current successes and is needed to continue facilitating communication between affected stakeholders, assuring public involvement in activities, coordinating projects that improve the health of the watershed, developing and implementing a public outreach and education program, securing funding for project budgets, assessing the condition of the watershed, and developing watershed action plan(s). The watershed council model plays a key role in the "Oregon Approach" to restoring water quality and aquatic system and watershed functions to support beneficial use of the resources. This model relies on meshing sound science with local citizen commitment to accomplish these goals. Improving this existing process for ecosystem restoration supports the Columbia Basin FWP and the tribal plan for restoring natural ecosystems and putting fish back in the rivers. Project monitoring will be conducted by project partners and outcome effectiveness will be evaluated based on the number of successful project implemented, level of citizen participation, improvement to resource conditions, and creation of a stable organization whose annual operating budget reflects a steady, incremental increase.**

## **Section 7. Project description**

### **a. Technical and/or scientific background.**

The State of Oregon established legislation in 1987 which created the Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board for assisting Oregonians in improving the state's watersheds. 1995 legislation expanded the program and directed GWEB to recognize the importance of local citizen councils in accomplishing watershed enhancement objectives. Throughout the Oregon, council coordinators have provided citizen councils the staff support required to create successful enhancement projects.

The State of Oregon's efforts to head off a threatened federal lawsuit for failure to comply with the Clean Water Act and protect the public's resources lead to the establishment of two innovative programs by the Governor. These programs recognize that a "cooperative effort, sustained over time"<sup>(1)</sup> may produce the greatest success for improving and restoring salmon and trout populations. This "Oregon Approach" abandons reliance on regulatory approaches for one which relies on voluntary, cooperative efforts based in existing laws and regulations. Scientifically sound actions meshed with local public support, teamwork between government agencies and levels, and monitoring and accountability complete the components required to establish success. Each of these identified actions are also components of many resource management plans and strategies, including the Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, the Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakima Tribes, the US Forest Service, BLM, SWCD's, State of Oregon agencies, and local government plans.

The Governor's initiatives highlights the key role watershed councils will play in facilitating partnerships for conducting basin assessments, developing action plans, monitoring projects, and involving landowners. Watershed Councils will play an important role in developing the "new level of trust, cooperation, and knowledge"<sup>(2)</sup> required to build the partnership and stewardship process expected to carry into the future. Without a local, ground-up approach, proper functioning aquatic systems and watersheds which support all beneficial uses, improved water quality, and a successful model of how to work together as a community for shared goals and objectives will not be realized.

The DCWC has begun to build the capacity of watershed stakeholders which will enable them to better understand and participate in this new approach to managing the natural resources we all depend on. The Coordinator has successfully increased stream flows through water right acquisitions, implemented education and outreach programs, and facilitated the development of project proposals and associated budgets. Conducting meetings, planning activities, and coordinating and communicating among stakeholders are further successes accomplished throughout the coordinator's efforts.

**b. Proposal objectives.**

Several key objectives have been established for the coordinator project. These objectives will help assure continued success and strengthen the organizational structure of the council.

1. Secure funding and other resources for achieving council and watershed enhancement goals.
2. Assess watershed condition and develop Action Plans.
3. Facilitate communication between citizens, government agencies, and other stakeholder entities and assure public involvement in watershed activities.
4. Conduct a community based outreach program about watershed values and functions.
5. Develop and implement projects that will improve watershed health.

c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

The Upper Deschutes Basin contains the headwaters for the Deschutes River, the major river in a subbasin of the Columbia River watershed. Proactive measures are being implemented by federal, state and local agencies and organizations to protect several Sensitive species (33 are found in the Deschutes National Forest), including bull trout, redband trout, steelhead, sage grouse, California wolverine, greater sandhill crane, Pacific western big-eared bat, spotted frogs, Peck's penstemon and milk vetch, and more. Also located in the watershed is habitat significant to listed species, including bald eagles, spotted owl, and peregrine falcons. Squaw, Why-Chus Creek provides a significant amount of critical habitat for these species as well as potential anadromous fish habitat. DCWC activities will help meet recovery goals for listed species and prevent future listings of candidate, sensitive, and special concern species.

The Upper Deschutes Basin surface waters have significantly altered water quality, stream flows, and instream habitat throughout the over 100 years of irrigation withdrawals. The rapid development currently occurring in the basin has increased consumptive water demands and begun to compromise surface and ground water quality. Recreational activities and demands for increased access to the ecosystem are also on the rise as a result of the increasing population as well as the popularity of the area. Developing solutions to these concerns will require implementing many of the technical recommendations identified in the Tribes fish management plan.

To facilitate success with resource management strategies, the Governor has suggested local watershed councils as the forum for developing actions which result in improved water quality and restored watershed resources. The state's initiatives, The Healthy Streams Partnership and The Oregon Plan, were developed in cooperation with recognized scientists from NMFS and Columbia Basin technical teams and crafted in a manner that directly compliments the Columbia Basin

management plans. Watershed council activities will rely heavily on these existing plans, information, and technical expertise to implement on-the-ground projects.

The DCWC will continue to facilitate the development of intergovernmental, collaborative projects for enhancing fish and wildlife habitat throughout the upper basin. The DCWC has begun restoring the instream habitat and improving instream flows in Squaw, Why-Chus Creek as part of its goal to assist in the reintroduction of salmon into the watershed. These efforts are directly connected to the Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, the anadromous Fish Restoration Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakima Tribes. All implemented activities will assist BPA to obtain the goals established under the FWP and support Oregon's Healthy Streams Partnership and The Oregon Plan as well.

#### d. Project history

Following two years of planning and securing funding, the DCWC began holding public meetings in the late Fall of 1996. The council gained formal recognition from the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners in May of 1997. The adopted mission states that the DCWC "actively fosters stewardship of Upper Deschutes River resources through cooperative, voluntary endeavors with watershed landowners, residents, and other interested parties."

The DCWC has established itself as a non-profit, written Articles of Incorporation, begun developing operational procedures, received four project grants, implemented outreach and education programs, established a subwatershed working group, and developed seven additional project proposals over the course of twelve meetings. The coordinator has also coordinated activities and developed working relationships with other Basin Council Coordinators, stakeholders, and government agencies. The increasing complexity of the council's activities will require continued coordination by a staff person and the acquisition of equipment to compile data, keep records, and manage information.

Council projects have been and will continue to be successful due to the collective contributions made by the partners. Past successes have included water right acquisitions (one being the first established on the East side), education programs for noxious weed management, improving landowner management practices (irrigation, pasture, forest management, soil fertility and management, etc.), water quality monitoring in two subbasins, and establishing a Squaw, Why-Chus Creek subbasin working group. The successes experienced by the DCWC will continue to build community support and momentum for watershed enhancement activities.

#### e. Methods.



The council will work to accomplish Objective 3, facilitating communication and assuring citizen involvement, by using methodology that has proven successful for watershed councils and non-profit organizations. The methods will include attending pertinent stakeholder meetings, maintaining and using stakeholder mailing list, establishing media contacts, forming local stakeholder working groups in subwatersheds, and securing stakeholder participation of council committees.

While assessing watershed condition and developing an Action Plan, Objective 2, the council will rely on stakeholder and agency involvement, compile existing data and documents, identify data gaps, coordinate with Basin groups and plans, write an assessment, identify limiting conditions, develop an Action Plan, and assure Technical review of the documents.

Objective 4 targets conducting community-based outreach programs about watershed values and functions. Methods will include conducting watershed and project tours, publishing articles or newsletters, conducting workshops and seminars about relevant concerns, and providing technical assistance to landowners. Additionally, the council will develop outreach materials, including brochures, maps, slide shows, for use at community events and presentations to stakeholder organizations and groups.

Objective 1 methods will secure funding and resources to implement the council's and watershed goals. Proven methods begin with identifying funding sources and opportunities. Proposals will developed and submitted to appropriate state, federal, and private funding programs. The budget line item for "project design and management" will be used to fund coordination budgets.

The fifth goal addresses implementing projects that improve watershed health and will rely on councils Action Plans for the identification of these projects. The design of projects will be coordinated with affected parties, assure technical review and proposal development, and require project management, monitoring and evaluation be conducted by the partners.

The factors which can negatively affect or limit the effectiveness of outcomes can originate from a variety of internal and external influences. The external factors include a failure to: provide for adequate landowner incentives and involvement; establish effective communications, partnerships, and ongoing legislative funding; and secure adequate technical assistance during project development.

The funding environment has grown increasing competitive as management entities attempt to accomplish results within a short time frame. This situation increases the likelihood that project proposals will fail to receive funding. This may especially true for Basins where anadromous fish, a funding priority, are not found.

Internal factors can be directly linked to the stakeholders ability to commit themselves to what can appear a daunting task. The job of building the shared values and trust

required to craft successful partnerships and solutions for these potentially contentious natural resources issues will present councils with many difficult challenges. A strong Board of Directors and effective coordinator, as well as support from all levels of the government will be essential to the success of this innovative, “Oregon Approach” to resource management.

**f. Facilities and equipment.**

Currently, the DCWC Coordinator is provided office space, a copy machine, fax machine access, voice messaging services, conference facilities, and telephone lines by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The coordinator provides the use of a personal computer and printer for council activities. The DSWCD partners with the DCWC to implement projects and contribute grant management and administration support.

The use of projects funds to purchase a computer, printer, and associated software would enable the council to compile data in computer-based data management systems, utilize electronic communications to coordinate with stakeholders, agencies, and other councils, set up appropriate project management procedures, and facilitate word processing activities for reports, etc.

**g. References.**

Nicholas, Jay W. 1997 Coastal Salmon Restoration Initiative. Executive Summary Overview 1997.

Kitzhaber, Governor John A. Healthy Streams Partnership. Principles and Agreement 1997.

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, The Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakima Tribes. Executive Summary. 1997.

## **Section 8. Relationships to other projects**

Watershed Council’s are being asked by both federal and state governments to assure coordination between governmental management agencies and local private organizations, businesses, and citizens for protecting and enhancing watersheds. The DCWC activities are coordinated with and complimentary to:

- ♦ The technical recommendations found in the Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit, The Anadromous Fish Restoration Plan of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakima Tribes.
- ♦ The Northwest Power Planning Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program.
- ♦ The National Marine Fisheries Service’s salmon recovery plans under the Endangered Species Act.

- Oregon Trout's *Deschutes Fisheries Restoration Project*.
- The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs *Ecosystem Diagnosis Treatment* watershed assessment.
- The US Fish and Wildlife Service's establishment of a Bend field office to focus on protecting and enhancing east-side wildlife and fish habitat.
- The Deschutes *Wild and Scenic Management Plan* implementation coordinated with the Deschutes National Forest.
- The Deschutes Mitigation and Enhancement Committee projects targeting mitigation of irrigation withdrawal impacts on the Middle and Upper Deschutes.
- The GAP Analysis for the State of Oregon which highlighted the Upper Deschutes, specifically Squaw Creek subwatershed, as containing high biological diversity requiring protection and enhancement.
- The Natural Resources Conservation Service and local Soil and Water Conservation District (DSWCD) efforts to assist landowners improve land management practices.
- The US Forest Service's landscape based, ecosystem management strategy for over 80% of the upper basin's lands.
- The Bureau of Land Management
- The State of Oregon's *Oregon Plan* and *Healthy Stream Partnership* programs for improving water quality to support anadromous and native fish populations and additional beneficial uses of water.
- Trout Unlimited and Bring Back the Native programs for enhancing habitat conditions and implementing educational programs.
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife programs, including *Restoration and Enhancement* and *Access and Habitat* programs as well as educational and outreach activities for Oregon's citizens.
- OSU Extension Service's education and outreach activities for community residents, landowners, livestock producers, etc.
- Deschutes Resource Conservancy basin-wide management efforts to improve water quantity and quality for the Deschutes River and its tributaries.
- Oregon Water Trust's market-based program assisting to creatively manage their water rights.
- The DSWCD's 1994 *Squaw, Why-Chus Creek Assessment*.
- The Sisters Ranger District planned 1998 Squaw Creek Watershed Assessment.

## **Section 9. Key personnel**

**Barbara J. Lee is the current Council Coordinator for the DCWC. She works full time facilitating the councils activities, developing projects, managing projects, assuring agency cooperation and stakeholder participation, conducting outreach activities, and facilitating communication between private and public entities. Additionally, Ms. Lee sets meeting agendas, maintains council minutes, administers records and project grants, and coordinates and communicates with the DSWCD, the councils close partner. Ms. Lee's skills and expertise have been instrumental to the success of the DCWC and has helped the organization accomplish many projects while**

simultaneously addressing its “forming, storming, and norming” organizing tasks. Please refer to the attached resume for additional information regarding her qualifications.

## **Section 10. Information/technology transfer**

Information from this project will be shared by promoting the efforts of the council to the greater watershed community. Activities to accomplish this could include project tours, education programs, seminars, workshops, linkages to web sites, media articles, and presentations to affected groups and agencies. Data generated by projects will shared through reports and papers. Additionally, each of the council’s activities will be incorporated into a state-wide database which can be accessed by residents and governmental bodies.